

Message Text

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53

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIEP-01 COME-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 INT-05 OMB-01

OES-03 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-01 IO-10 (ISO)W

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R 201453Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5001
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
C/AMEMBASSY LONDON 2438
USMISSION EEC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 7378

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR IS DA

SUBJ: VISIT OF DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER TO ISRAEL

1. DANISH FONMIN GULDBERG DEC 19 COMPLETED
FOUR-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO ISRAEL. GULDBERG
MAINTAINED FAIRLY FULL SCHEDULE BUT, WITH EX-
CEPTION OF PRESS CONFERENCE, VISIT AROUSED
RELATIVELY LITTLE MEDIA INTEREST.

2. AT PRESS CONFERENCE, GULDBERG SAID THAT SOLVING
MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT WILL NOT SOLVE
"FUNDAMENTAL" ECONOMIC PROBLEMS FACING INDUSTRIALIZED
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COUNTRIES. HE EXPRESSED OPINION THAT WORLD WOULD

STILL BE THREATENED BY DEPRESSION AS SERIOUS AS IN 1930'S, BUT FELT THAT BASIC PROBLEM IS ONE OF OIL PRICES AND PRICES ARE NOT SET ONLY BY ARABS. INCREASE IN PRICES OF RAW MATERIALS IN GENERAL HAD ACHIEVED MOMENTUM OF ITS OWN, HE SAID, QUITE APART FROM ARAB-ISRAEL CONFLICT.

3. ASKED TO EXPLAIN WHY DENMARK ABSTAINED ON PALESTINE ISSUE AT UNGA, GULDBERG EXPLAINED THAT THE RESOLUTION EXPRESSED AN OPINION BUT DID NOT CALL FOR OPERATIVE MEASURES. DANISH DELEGATION THEREFORE DID NOT SEE RES AS REQUIRING VOTE, AND CHOSE TO EXPRESS ITS OWN VIEWS IN EXPLANATION OF ITS ABSTENTION. HE ADDED THAT IN DANISH VIEW, WHICH HE SAID WAS SHARED BY NORDIC GROUP, "QUESTION OF INDEPENDENT ISRAEL WITH SECURE BORDERS" IS NOT OPEN TO DISCUSSION. HOWEVER, THERE MUST BE BALANCE BETWEEN MEETING PROBLEMS OF ISRAEL AND THOSE OF PALESTINIANS.

4. AT AIRPORT SESSION WITH PRESS ON DEPARTURE, GULDBERG IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION THAT POSSIBILITY OF PLO REPRESENTATIVE PARTICIPATING IN DIALOGUE BETWEEN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND ARAB OIL PRODUCERS HAD NOT YET BEEN DISCUSSED. HE ALSO EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH NEARLY COMPLETED ISRAELI-EEC TRADE AGREEMENT, PROGRESS ON WHICH WAS ANNOUNCED HERE DURING HIS VISIT.

5. NO COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED. DANISH EMBASSY HAS TOLD US THAT ISRAELIS APPEARED TO WANT COMMUNIQUE VERY MUCH BUT DANES WERE SUCCESSFUL IN AVOIDING ONE, CITING FACT THAT THERE HAD BEEN NONE FOLLOWING VISITS EARLIER IN YEAR TO SAUDI ARAB AND EGYPT.

6. COMMENT: GULDBERG APPEARS TO HAVE HAD SUCCESSFUL VISIT, IF ONLY ON BASIS THAT ISRAELI PRESS WOULD HAVE GIVEN IT GREATER PLAY HAD HE NOT. TIMING OF ANNOUNCEMENT ON NEARLY COMPLETED EEC AGREEMENT WAS FORTUITOUS. ON PLO-RELATED QUESTIONS, GULBERG APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO BE FORTHRIGHT WITHOUT CONFIDENTIAL

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ENGAGING IN TYPE OF LECTURES OF WHICH ISRAELIS ARE TIRING. GIVEN CURRENT MOOD IN ISRAEL, GENERAL REACTION HERE TO VISIT WAS PERHAPS BEST SUMMARIZED BY MAARIV EDITORIAL, "...MERE FACT THAT HE IS VISITING US IN THESE DAYS OF POLITICAL ISOLATION IS SIGN OF FRIENDSHIP".
DOZIER

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